



# Stormwater Best Management Practices Fact Sheet Series

## Food Services Industry

### Restaurant waste may cause water pollution

Food businesses can cause harm by putting food waste in leaky dumpsters, not cleaning up outdoor food or chemical spills, or by washing outdoor spills into the storm drain system. Pollutants, such as cleansers, solvents, fats, oils, and grease can build up in storm drains causing blockages, negatively impacting the operation of stormwater retention areas, or affect our water quality.



### What can you do to prevent pollution?



- Pour wash water in a utility sink; don't pour it out onto a parking lot, alley, sidewalk or street
- Use dry methods for spill cleanup (sweeping, cat litter, etc.); don't hose down spills
- Clean floor mats, filters and garbage cans in a utility sink or curbed cleaning facility with a floor drain; don't wash them in a parking lot, alley, sidewalk or street
- Recycle grease and oil; don't pour it into sinks, floor drains, or onto a parking lot or street
- All solid and liquid wastes, such as tallow, must be stored and transferred in watertight, covered containers
- Keep dumpster area clean and lid closed; don't fill it with liquid waste or hose it out
- Repair or replace leaky dumpsters
- Train employees to practice pollution prevention; post best management practice guidelines around the restaurant



For additional information or questions, please contact:

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